

Utility Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mario L. Miano et al.

Serial N°:

Filed:

Entitled: **Automated Flatware and Napkin
Assembling Apparatus**

Docket N°: 1082

Date: July 25, 2003

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I/We hereby declare that:

My/Our residence, post office address(es) and citizenship(s) are as stated below next to my/our name(s).

I/We believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed (if plural names are listed below) and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Automated Flatware and Napkin Assembling Apparatus**, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I/We further state that I/We do not know and do not believe that the above-named invention has ever been known or used in the United States before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof, or more than one year prior to this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application; that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of any inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than six (6) months prior to this application; and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on the invention has been filed by me or my representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States except as identified below.

I/We hereby state that I/We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment if applicable.

I/We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this

application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I/We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

None.

I/We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112. I/We acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

U.S. Provisional Patent Serial No. 60/407,574 filed on 9/3/02.

I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I/We hereby appoint the following Patent Attorney, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

John D. Gugliotta, P.E., Esq., Registration No. 36,538

P. Jeff Martin, Esq., Registration No. 47,773

Olen L. York, III, Esq., Registration No. 53,814

I/We hereby request that all correspondence be directed to: **Law Offices of John D. Gugliotta, PE, Esq., 202 Delaware Building, 137 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44308** which is also the address of the above-listed attorneys; and that all telephone calls be directed to (330) 253-5678.

SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:

Full Name of First Inventor: Mario L. Miano



Signature of Mario L. Miano

Residence of Mario L. Miano: Fort Collins, CO

Citizenship of Mario L. Miano: UNITED STATES

Post Office Address of Mario L. Miano: 731 Sitka Street, Fort Collins, CO 80524

8/5/03

Date

SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY):

Full Name of Joint Inventor: Kevin W. Nelson



Signature of Joint Inventor Kevin W. Nelson

Residence of Joint Inventor Kevin W. Nelson: Fort Collins, CO

Citizenship of Joint Inventor Kevin W. Nelson: UNITED STATES

Post Office Address of Joint Inventor Kevin W. Nelson: 1401 Sugarpine St., Fort Collins, CO
80524

8/5/03

Date

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**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.0(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled as above and described in

[X] the specification filed herewith

[] application serial number _____, filed _____
[] patent no. _____, issued _____

I/We have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(C) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I/We have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

[X] no such person, concern, or organization

[] persons, concerns or organizations listed below*

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entity. (37 CFR 1.27).

I/We acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

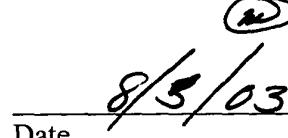
I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:

Full Name of First Inventor: Mario L. Miano



Signature of: Mario L. Miano



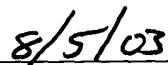
Date

SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY):

Full Name of Joint Inventor: Kevin W. Nelson



Signature of Joint Inventor: Kevin W. Nelson



Date

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**NONPUBLICATION REQUEST
UNDER
35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)**

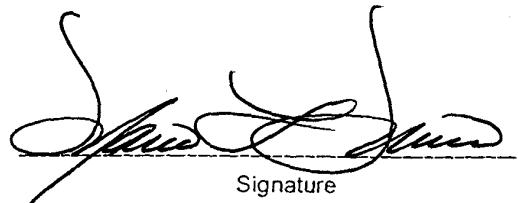
		First Named Inventor	MARIO L. MIANO
Title	AUTOMATED FLATWARE AND NAPKIN ASSEMBLING APPARATUS		
		Atty Docket Number	1082

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

8/5/03

Date



Signature

Mario L. Miano

Typed or printed name

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application upon filing.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).

Burden Hour Statement: This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is used by the public to request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) (and the PTO to process that request). Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This form is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete. This time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.